

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
Maundy Thursday  
March 28, 2024 6:00 p.m.

*Gather at the tables.*

*The food and drink will be blessed. Then all are welcome to eat, drink and be in conversation. After time to eat, the celebrant stands and directs us to begin the Service of the Word.*

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**His mercy endures forever.**

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord you God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*A period of Silence will be kept.*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray:

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **The Lessons**

#### **The first reading is from Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14**

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Psalm 116:1, 10-17**

- 1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, \* because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
- 10 How shall I repay the LORD \* for all the good things he has done for me?
- 11 I will lift up the cup of salvation \* and call upon the Name of the LORD.
- 12 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD \* in the presence of all his people.
- 13 Precious in the sight of the LORD \* is the death of his servants.
- 14 O LORD, I am your servant; \* I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.
- 15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving \* and call upon the Name of the LORD.
- 16 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD \* in the presence of all his people,
- 17 In the courts of the LORD'S house, \* in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

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### **The second reading is from 1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 13:1-17, 31b-35 Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord--and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love

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one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**



**(See lesson insert)**

**Homily**

Fellow servants of our Lord Jesus Christ: On the night before his death, Jesus set an example for his disciples by washing their feet, an act of humble service. He taught that strength and growth in the life of the Kingdom of God come not by power, authority, or even miracle, but by such lowly service. We all need to remember his example, but none stand more in need of this reminder than those whom the Lord has called to the ordained ministry.

Therefore, I invite you who share in the royal priesthood of Christ, to come forward, that I may recall whose servant I am by following the example of my Master. But come remembering his admonition that what will be done for you is also to be done by you to others, for "a servant is not greater than his master, nor is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them."

*All are invited to have their feet washed. After having your feet washed, you may stay to wash your neighbor's feet.*

**Litany of Healing**

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

*(As the Spirit moves you, please take turns reading one of the petitions)*

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;

**We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;

**We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;

**We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;

**We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

Lord, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole;

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence:

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit;

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering, granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience;

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and uphold by the grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit those who are bereaved:

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

You are the Lord who does wonders:

**You have declared your power among the peoples.**

With you, O Lord, is the well of life: And in your light we see light.

**Hear us, O Lord of life: Heal us, and make us whole.**

*The celebrant concludes the Prayers with the following Collect:*

God of mercy, you have given us grace to pray with one heart and one voice, and have promised to hear the prayers of two or three who agree in your name; fulfill now, we pray, the prayers and longings of your people as may be best for us and for your kingdom. Grant us in this world to know your truth, and in the world to come to see your glory.

**Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*Then all may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

### **Offertory Sentence**

*(As we sing we move into the church for Eucharist. There is not a formal collection. Please leave your offering in the plate on the little table.)*

### **Offertory Hymn “Let us Break Bread Together” (Hymn #325)**

1. Let us break bread together on our knees,  
let us break bread together on our knees.

*Ref.* When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord have mercy on me.

2. Let us drink wine together on our knees,  
let us drink wine together on our knees; *ref.*
3. Let us praise God together on our knees,  
let us praise God together on our knees; *ref.*